

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EA-11 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /147 W

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R 141545Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6880

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4439

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3632

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, US

SUBJ: POMPIDOU VISIT: INITIAL IMPRESSIONS

REF: MOSCOW 3408

1. WE SEE NO INDICATION THAT POMPIDOU VISIT PRODUCED
ANYTHING OF MAJOR CONSEQUENCE. POMPIDOU'S PRE-
DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE MADE CLEAR THAT FRENCH
DID NOT SUCCUMB TO SOVIET EFFORTS TO CHANGE PARIS'

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NEGATIVE ATTITUDE ON A CSCE SUMMIT. FRENCH

EMBOFF HAS CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS MADE MAJOR ATTEMPT TO BRING FRENCH AROUND ON CSCE , BUT FAILED. COMMUNIQUE KEPT UP APPEARANCES, BUT IN ITS SPARSENESS RESEMBLED THE DOCUMENT WHICH FOLLOWED BREZHNEV'S RAMOUILLET STOPOVER IN JUNE 1973, RATHER THAN THE LENGTHY, SUBSTANTIVE COMMUNIQUE WHICH EMERGED FROM POMPIDOU'S VISIT TO THE USSR IN JANUARY 1973.

2. WHILE SOVIET MEDIA TREATMENT OF VISIT WAS HEAVY -- INCLUDING LIVE TV COVERAGE OF POMPIDOU ARRIVAL -- IT POINTED UP FACT THAT SOVIETS PLAYED VISIT AS LESS FORMAL AND IMPORTANT THAN MOST OF BREZHNEV'S SUMMITS. SOVIET PRESS LAID HEAVY STRESS ON THE "REGULAR CONSULTATIONS" ASPECT OF THE BRIEF ENCOUNTER.

3. TASS ACCOUNT OF POMPIDOU'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN PRAVDA MARCH 14 OMITTED FRENCH PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON CSCE SUMMIT, BUT INCLUDED HIS STATEMENT THAT CSCE RECEIVED MAJOR ATTENTION IN TALKS. TASS VERSION NOTED HIS STATEMENT THAT TWO SIDES AGREED ON SERIES OF CSCE POINTS AND PRINCIPLES AND ALSO HIS ADMISSION OF DIFFICULTIES.

4. PRAVDA SPECIAL REPORTS FROM PITSUNDA MARCH 13 AND 14 FOLLOWED LINE OF BREZHNEV'S PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL IN GENTLY NEEDLING FRENCH. PRAVDA REFERRED TO TALKS AS "FRANK AND CONSTRUCTIVE," A SHARPER FORMULATION THAN THE "FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL RESPECT" OF THE COMMUNIQUE. IT ALSO NOTED POMPIDOU'S DECEMBER PREDICTION THAT CSCE THIRD STAGE WOULD TAKE PLACE IN SPRING OR EARLY SUMMER, ADDING POINTEDLY THAT UNIFIED EFFORTS OF FRANCE AND USSR CAN DO MUCH TO PROVE OUT THAT PREDICTION. PRAVDA REVERTED TO BREZHNEV'S CRITICISM OF THOSE WHO TALK ABOUT "SUPERPOWERS," ALTHOUGH THIS TIME WITHOUT POINTING THE FINGER AT THE CHINESE. PRAVDA ALSO PICKED UP BREZHNEV'S ATTACK ON FRENCH PRESS BY CLAIMING THAT "AMONG WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS ARRIVING IN PITSUNDA" THERE ARE SOME WHO OPPOSE CLOSE FRENCH-SOVIET RELATIONS.

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5. PRAVDA MARCH 13 ACCOUNT ALSO MANAGED A DIG AT U.S., NOTING THAT FRENCH AND SOVIET COOPERATION HAD HELPED ACHIEVE "CESSATION OF AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN INDOCHINA."

6. FRENCH AMBASSADOR VIMONT, WHO PARTICIPATED IN MARCH 12 TALKS (ARCH 13 TALK WAS TETE-A-TETE) EXPECTED TO BRIEF QUADRIPARTITE AMBASSADORS' MEETING

MARCH 15.
STOESSEL

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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30 JUN 2005

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